

CONTROL SYSTEM FOR OUTBOARD MOTOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An outboard motor has a drive unit and a bracket assembly that supports the drive unit. The drive unit moves right and left. The drive unit has an engine that incorporates throttle valves and a transmission. A propeller is powered by the engine. The throttle valves move between closed and open positions. The transmission moves among shift positions to set the propeller to either forward, reverse or neutral mode. A steering actuator moves the drive unit right and left. A throttle valve actuator moves the throttle valves between the closed and open positions. A shift actuator moves the transmission among the shift positions. A stick generates a steering control command, a throttle valve position control command and a shift control command. The stick can swing right and left and back and forth. The control commands are selectively generated in response to the swing movement of the stick. A control device controls the actuators based upon the commands.

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